equipped with 30 mm guns which are better and heavier than those on Indian Coast Guard ships as reportedly observed by the Director General, Coast Guard on June 27, 1990;

(b) if so, what is the present strength of Indian Coast Guard ships and the guns on them, as compared to those of their counterparts in Pakistan; and

(c) what is the scheme for upgrading and augmenting the Indian Coast Guards fleet equipment so as to be able to guard the coastal belt effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) The recently acquired Pakistani Maritime Agency vessels are equipped with modern 30 mm guns. Our Coast Guard vessels are equipped with the older 40/60 Bofors guns. The strength of Coast Guard Fleet and their fire power are determined according to the roles assigned to the Coast Guard vessels.

(c) The augmentation of Coast Guard Fleet and its modernisation are undertaken in accordance with the Coast Guard Development Five Year Plans.

Alleged misleading of Swedish Newspaper "Degens Nyheter" by investigation team in Bofors Gun deal

2389. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Swedish Newspaper DEGENS NYHETER has tendered an unqualified apology to Shri Ajitabh Bachchan in a libel suit filed by him against the newspaper for publishing a report, linking him with the Bofors Gun deal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the proceedings, the said newspaper had blamed the CBI and the persons directly involved in the investigations into the deal on behalf of Government of India, for misleading both the correspondent and the editor of the newspaper; and

(c) if so, what are the names of such persons who have misled the Swedish newspaper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The Ministry of Defence has no information in the matter.

(b) and (c) According to the CBI, no officer of the Government of India who was associated with the investigation at any stage had anything to do with the story published by Degens Nyheter on 31-1-1990.

मंत्रिमण्डल सचिव द्वारा हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स को दिया गया साक्षात्कार

2390. **डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय :**

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान जुलाई 1990 के अन्तिम सप्ताह में हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में मंत्रिमण्डल सचिव द्वारा दिए गए साक्षात्कार की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें राजनीतिक और प्रशासनिक मसलों प उनके विचा प्रकाशित किय गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या उन्होंने साक्षात्कार को देने से पहले सरकार की अनुमति ली थी; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

प्रधान मंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह): (क) से (ग) सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में प्रकाशित मंत्रिमण्डल सचिव के साथ हुए साक्षात्कार को देखा है । साक्षात्कार के दौरान विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा की गई । इस साक्षात्कार में सरकारी नीतियों या राजनैतिक पार्टियों की आलोचना नहीं की गई थी ।

वर्तमान आशुदेशों के अनुसार भारत सरकार के सचिव स्तर के अधिकारी सरकार की पूर्वानुमति के बिना प्रेस के साथ बातचीत

कर सकते हैं । अनुदेशों में इस बात की व्यवस्था है कि वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों विशेषकर भारत सरकार के सचिव स्तर के अधिकारी से यह अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वे समय-समय पर प्रचार माध्यमों के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ बातचीत करें और सरकार की नीतियों को उपयुक्त परिप्रेक्ष्य में स्पष्ट करने के लिए उनसे तालमेल स्थापित करें ।

Demand of AIKVTA for transfer of KVS employees from J&K

2391. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wards of Government employees posted in J&K, who are not the domiciled residents| citizens of the State, are ineligible for admission to Medical & Technical Colleges/Institute located in the State;

(b) if so, whether any suggestions have been made by AIKVTA for transfer of parents on a priority basis to a place where such wards seek|get admission; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Admission in the college of Arts, Delhi Administration

2392. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether students who passed class XII with any subjects and percentage of marks were eligible for admission to the Bachelor of Fine Art, Painting, Bachelor of Applied Art and Bachelor of Sculpture in College of Arts of Delhi Administration in 1990-91;

(b) whether candidates had to appear for painting test paper of 150 marks;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for treating the students of science and commerce at par with the students of painting, History and Civics; and

(d) what is the number of students admitted in the college who had (i) science and commerce and (ii) painting as subjects in XII class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Human encroachments in the Kaziranga National Park

2393. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large-scale human encroachments in the Kaziranga National Park, in Assam pose a serious threat to the one-horned rhino, an already endangered species; and

(b) if so, what was the extent of encroachments into the Park till the end of June, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) There is no threat to the rhinos in Kaziranga National Park from large scale encroachment as no encroachment has been reported in the Park.

Admission in Maharani Bagh and Sharda Ukil School of Art

2394. SHRI SHIV PRASAD MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students who passed class XII in any subject with a specific